

SENATOR HALL: Thank you, Mr. Clerk. Next item, General File, consent calendar, LB 408.

CLERK: Mr. President, 408 was a bill originally introduced by Senator Cudaback. (Read title.) The bill was introduced on January 14, referred to the Government Committee, advanced to General File. There are committee amendments pending by the Government Committee. (See AM06123 found on page 836 of the Legislative Journal.)

SENATOR HALL: Senator Schimek on the committee amendments.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Yes, Mr. President, members of the body, this bill advanced from the committee on an 8 to 0 vote with the committee amendment. After that advancement, some of the parties that were involved with the bill got together and there have been some changes written in. The committee amendment deals with land management practice and prescribed burning, and that's the first part of the bill, Sections 1 and 2, actually, and then the third portion of the committee amendment waives the open burning permit for political subdivisions. All that will be retained in the committee amendment, if you decide to adopt the Wickersham amendment to the committee amendment, will be Section 3, and then he will explain the other two provisions. That is all I am going to explain about the committee amendment at this point, and maybe after Senator Wickersham has a chance to introduce his amendment, there may be questions I would be happy to answer.

SENATOR HALL: Thank you, Senator Schimek. Mr. Clerk, an amendment to the committee amendments.

CLERK: Senator Wickersham would move to amend the committee amendments. (See AM2803 found on page 660 of the Legislative Journal.)

SENATOR HALL: Senator Wickersham to open on the amendment.

SENATOR WICKERSHAM: Thank you, Mr. President. The amendment is on page 660 of the Journal, and as Senator Schimek indicated, it replaces the first two portions of the committee amendments. Those are really the operative provisions providing for a waiver of the open burning prohibition across the State of Nebraska. The waiver is limited to burning for what we characterize as